

RESOURCES for AGING
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Welcome to Resources for Aging, the electronic newsletter (e-newsletter) of the **Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA)** in **Lansing**. It provides timely information about aging network news, events and resources.

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Complimentary Issues are sent directly by e-mail to those on an e-newsletter distribution list. Printed copies are mailed upon request to those who do not have Internet/e-mail access. Also, past issues can be accessed at www.miseniors.net.

Resources for Aging is distributed every three weeks. The next two issues will be dated August 21 and September 11.

For more information about this e-newsletter, see the RESOURCES FOR AGING section at the end of this issue.

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AGING NETWORK NEWS/RESOURCES

State Legislators Finalize 2007 State Budget

On **July 26**, Senate Bill (SB) 1083 of 2006 and other state budget bills for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-2007 state budget were passed by the Michigan House and Senate. They have been enrolled and presented to **Gov. Jennifer Granholm** for her signature.

The 2006-2007 OSA budget, which is a part of the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) budget, remains essentially the same as the OSA budget for 2005-2006. It also is identical to what the Governor recommended in her Executive Budget.

The only change from what the Governor recommended for OSA for 2006-2007 is the listing of the three senior volunteer programs as separate line items in the budget. These programs include the Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), the Senior Companion Program (SCP) and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).

As for other state programs that impact aging, State Legislators agreed with the Governor to provide maintenance of funding for MI Choice in the MDCH budget. Their budget bills also include boilerplate language that ends all funding for the Single Points of Entry (SPEs) by the end of the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

The MI Choice/Medicaid Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS) program budget continues to require a reduction of \$2/day per person in "administrative costs." However, these savings are to be reallocated to increase client enrollment in the HCBS program.

The 2006-2007 Department of Human Services (MDHS) budget increases Medicaid personal care supplemental monies paid to Adult Foster Care (AFC) and Homes for the Aged by \$10/month. It also provides \$200,000 for the Michigan State University (MSU) Kinship Care Resources Center. Although funding for the 2-1-1 helpline was removed from the MDCH budget, it was transferred to the MDHS budget.

The MDHS budget shows a \$31 million increase in wages for Home Help workers, the first wage increase for them in 10 years. Economic experts predict this increase actually will reduce state Medicaid costs by \$276 million over the next six years by reducing the turnover rate, allowing more senior adults to remain in their own homes, and avoiding state Medicaid costs for home help workers and nursing home care.

In addition, the MDHS budget gives a \$20,000 increase to the Michigan Coordinated Access to Food for the Elderly (MiCAFE) program, and \$25,000/each to senior food aid programs in Kent and Muskegon Counties.

For more information, call **Sally Steiner** at OSA (517/373-8810) or e-mail to steiners@michigan.gov, or **Mary Ablan** at the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan (517/886-1227) or e-mail to ablan@iserv.net.

Governor Appoints/Reappoints CSA Commissioners

Governor Jennifer Granholm has announced the appointment of two new Commissioners to the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA):

Donald L. Newport from Greenbush in Alcona County, who is President Emeritus of Alpena Community College, and a consultant at the college. Dr. Newport is appointed to represent Independents for a term expiring July 28, 2009, and succeeds **Alberta Wilburn** whose term has expired.

Anthony P. Pawelski from Pinconning in Bay County, who is Chair of the Bay County Democratic Party. Mr. Pawelski is appointed to represent Democrats for a term expiring July 28, 2009, and succeeds **Herman Dooha** whose term has expired.

The Governor also has announced the reappointment of two CSA Commissioners:

Jerutha Kennedy from Detroit in Wayne County, who is Unit Director of the Neighborhood Service Organization/Harper Gratiot Multi-Service Center in Detroit. Ms. Kennedy is reappointed to represent Independents for a term expiring July 28, 2009, and also serves as Chair of the CSA.

Ramesh C. Verma from Novi in Wayne County, who is the former Director of Health Care Engineering with Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May, Inc. Mr. Verma is reappointed to represent Democrats for a term expiring July 28, 2009.

According to the Older Michiganians Act (Public Act 180 of 1981), the 15-member CSA is established within the Executive Office of the Governor. Its members are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Michigan Senate. A majority of the members must be age 60 or older, and no more than eight members can be from the same political party.

The CSA addresses the broad interests of Michigan's older persons by serving as a visible advocate for them. It also advises the Governor, Legislature and OSA, and makes recommendations concerning aging priorities and policies, and the coordination and administration of federal and state programs for senior adults.

In addition, the CSA reviews and approves area agency on aging (AAA) plans and grants that are funded from state, federal or other sources, and administered by OSA.

SPE Bill Languishes in State Legislature

House Bill 5389 of 2005, that would create a statewide system of Single Points of Entry (SPE) in Michigan, remains stalled in the State House, and it is not clear whether it will be voted on during this legislative session.

SPEs are one-stop shops for long-term care. They would serve as the sole agency within the designated single point of entry area to assess a consumer's eligibility for Medicaid long-term care programs by using a comprehensive level of care assessment approved by the Department of Community Health.

This bill would amend the Social Welfare Act to require the Director of the Department of Community Health to designate and maintain locally and regionally-based single points of entry (SPE) for long-term care (LTC) that would serve as visible and effective access points for individuals who seek LTC, and to promote consumer choice and quality in LTC options.

Sponsored by **Rep. Rick Shaffer** (R-Three Rivers) and co-sponsored by 41 other State Representatives, it was introduced last November and referred to the House Committee on Senior Health, Security, and Retirement. Since then the bill has been reported out of committee with a proposed substitute bill, where it remains on second reading.

Because state legislators have tentatively scheduled Wednesday sessions through the month of August, It appears there still is a possibility that this bill will be acted upon by the State Legislature before its 2005-2006 term expires at the end of the year. But if this does not happen, the bill will have to be re-introduced after January 1 for consideration during the new 2007-2008 legislative session.

For more information, call **Sally Steiner** at OSA (517/373-8810) or e-mail to steiners@michigan.gov, or **Mary Ablan** at the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan (517/886-1227) or e-mail to ablan@iserv.net.

MSG to Celebrate its 50th Year

The Michigan Society of Gerontology (MSG) will hold its 50th Anniversary celebration **November 2** at the Michigan State University (MSU) Kellogg Center in **East Lansing**. The program will include a luncheon, comments by distinguished guests and an award ceremony.

The mission of MSG is to bridge the worlds of aging research, policy and practice, and to create a dialogue that leads to improving the lives of older citizens. It achieves this through educational forums, networking opportunities and an interactive listserv. It also provides its members cross-discipline communication that can lead to collective action. Its diverse membership includes service providers, academicians and policy makers.

MSG was organized by internationally-recognized pioneers in gerontology, such as **Wilma Donahue**, founder of the University of Michigan (U-M) Institute of Social Gerontology who was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in 1983, and **Clark Tibbitts** who has been recognized by the Association of Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) by establishing an annual award in his name because he was an architect of the field of gerontology education.

During its early years, before Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), MSG served alongside the state office on aging, then housed within the old Michigan Department of Social Services, as the only statewide organization in aging.

For more information, go to www.msginfo.org or e-mail to MSG Administrator **Shannon Harkins-Padgitt** (info@msginfo.org).

AAA-2 Appoints New Executive Director

Ginny Wood-Bailey has been appointed to serve as the new Executive Director of the Region 2 Area Agency on Aging (AAA-2) that covers Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee Counties.

For the past four years, she has been the Clinical Supervisor of Care Management at AAA-2. In addition, she is a member of the State Advisory Council on Aging and was selected by **Congressman Joe Swartz** to represent Michigan as a Delegate to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA).

A Licensed Social Worker, she received her BSW and MSW degrees with a Masters Certificate in Gerontology from Eastern Michigan University (EMU). She also is a graduate of New Detroit Multi-Cultural Immersion Program. Previously she worked as Program Director at two agencies, Glacier Hills Retirement Center in Ann Arbor and Family Counseling & Children's Services in Adrian.

For more information, call **Ginny Wood-Bailey** at 517/467-2204 or toll-free 800/335-7881, or e-mail to ginny.bailey@raaa2.org.

OSA and AAAs Assist Refugees

For the past five years, elder refugees in Michigan have benefited from a statewide program called the Senior Refugee Support Services Project.

Funded by the Michigan Department of Human Services (MDHS) through OSA, the program is conducted by five area agencies on aging (AAAs) in four counties that have been designated as refugee resettlement sites. The five AAAs serve Ingham, Kent, Macomb and Oakland Counties, and include AAAs 1A, 1B, 1C, 6 and 8.

Refugees must be senior adults, age 60 and older, who have entered the US with the designation of a refugee. This means they are fleeing persecution in their native homelands. Because of their dislocation, they tend to experience social, economic, functional and/or physical isolation and decline.

The primary purpose of the program is to link elder refugees to services accessed through the aging network. This involves determining each refugee's unique unmet needs; matching the needs to services; connecting each refugee to those services; and keeping careful records.

Existing medical, governmental and aging network services that are provided for elder refugees include outreach, transportation, legal assistance, education, socialization and interpretive services, as well as culturally sensitive congregate meal sites with ethnic foods, information in a variety of languages, assistance with attempts to pursue citizenship, and cultural competency training for service providers.

As the result of this project, service infrastructures have been developed in each part of the state to provide ongoing assistance and support for this needy senior adult population. In addition to AAAs and aging network service providers, the collaborating members of these local infrastructures include resettlement agencies, sponsored immigrant access services, refugee service organizations, groups that advocate for refugee issues, and volunteer programs.

The coming 2006-2007 fiscal year will be the last year of MDHS funding for this project. For more information, call **Laura McMurtry** at OSA (517/335-4018) or e-mail to mcmurtryl@michigan.gov.

AAA Receives Award from N4A

Area Agency on Aging 1B (AAA-1B), serving Macomb, Oakland, Livingston, Washtenaw St. Clair and Monroe Counties, has received an Aging Innovation & Achievement Award from the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A).

This award recognizes model programs, and AAA-1B was recognized by N4A for its Medicare Part D Outreach, Education and Enrollment Campaign that enrolled large numbers of senior adults.

AAA-1B also was recognized by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for holding more than 40 Medicare Drug Plan Assistance events, and for assisting over 19,500 Medicare beneficiaries to enroll in Medicare Part D.

For more information, call AAA-1B Executive Director **Sandy Reminga** at 248/357-2255 or toll-free 800/852-7795, or e-mail to sreminga@aaa1b.com.

AoA Develops Fact Sheet to Combat Heat Wave

As you know, this is the hottest time of the year in Michigan. According to the Administration on Aging (AoA), heat-related illnesses are among the top weather-related killers, and elders are particularly vulnerable, especially those who are homebound, disabled, live alone or lack air conditioning or cooling equipment.

Heat waves are silent and invisible killers. During a typical year, heat waves kill more Americans than all other "natural disasters" combined. The best example of this occurred is the Chicago heat wave. During July, 1995 more than 700 Chicago residents, the majority of them old, alone or poor, perished during a severe heat wave in which temperatures topped 100 degrees for two days.

Consequently the AoA has developed a Fact Sheet entitled "How to Lower the Risk of Heat-Related Illnesses." It contains useful information about where to go for assistance to prevent heat-related illnesses. To download a copy, go to

www.aoa.gov/press/spotlight_on/2006/july/spotlightlowerrisk%20of%20%20heat-related%20illnesses7-20-06.doc.

State Surplus to Hold Two Public Auctions

The State Surplus Program has scheduled two public auctions to sell/dispose of excess surplus property to individuals who acquire ownership of the surplus property for their personal use.

These are excess miscellaneous items that could have been distributed by the State Surplus Program to other state departments, or distributed by OSA at no cost to service providers in the aging network. However, because they were not distributed, they are now up for auction.

Every two months the State Surplus Program conducts a public auction to sell/dispose of

excess miscellaneous items that have not been distributed by OSA, or acquired by other state departments.

The first **Surplus Auction** will be conducted by the State of Michigan State Surplus Program at 10:00 a.m. on **August 12** at the State Surplus Distribution Center in **Lansing**. It is located just south of the old Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Building at 3423 N. Martin Luther King (M-L-K) Blvd. Public inspection of the miscellaneous items to be auctioned will take place the day before at the same location.

The second public auction is the **UP Surplus Auction** that will be held at 10:00 a.m. on **October 14** in the Beef Barn at the UP State Fairgrounds in **Escanaba**. Public inspection of the miscellaneous items to be auctioned will be held the day before at the same location.

Items for auction can include laserjet printers, desk top and laptop computers, computer keyboards, computer monitors, electric staplers, side tables, computer tables, letter-size file cabinets, lateral file cabinets, storage cabinets, shelves, calculators, cell phones, fax machines, desk mats, electric typewriters, 3-ring binders, office chairs, stack chairs, steno chairs, coat racks, metal carts, book cases, and electric fans.

All sales are cash and carry, and all sales are final. Terms of payment include cash, check, VISA, MasterCard, American Express or Discover.

Future public auctions for miscellaneous state surplus equipment are scheduled for **October 7** and **December 9** in **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/surplus/ or call 517/335-8816.

OSA Distributes Surplus Items to Nonprofits at No Cost

Between b-monthly public auctions, miscellaneous surplus property can be distributed by OSA at no cost to service providers in the aging network, and to other nonprofits that serve senior adults. These include area agencies on aging (AAAs), senior centers, nutrition sites and councils/commissions on aging (CoAs).

To acquire surplus property, an appointment must be made with OSA to visit the State Surplus Distribution center in **Lansing**. OSA staff must be present while agency representatives are there to select and obtain the surplus items. If interested, call OSA (517/373-4082) at least one week in advance to make an appointment.

There is no limit to the number of surplus items that may be selected, or to the number of times agency representatives can visit. After surplus items are selected, paperwork must be completed, and the selected surplus items must be removed by the recipient agency the same day.

Ownership/title of the state surplus items remains with OSA. However, the items are loaned indefinitely to the recipient agency until such time as the items wear out, break-down, become obsolete, or are no longer needed. OSA must then be contacted for disposal procedures.

For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/surplus/ or call 517/335-8816.

Mental Health Conference Sessions Available Online

The third annual Michigan Mental Health & Aging Conference, sponsored by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and coordinated by the Lansing Community College (LCC) Mental Health and Aging Project, was held May 23-24 at the Michigan State University (MSU) Kellogg Center in East Lansing.

It addressed a number of mental health and aging topics involving compulsive hoarding, bipolar disorders, dementia, effective communication, schizoaffective disorder, psychiatric advanced directives, suicide, depression, and vision and hearing loss. It offered continuing education and training to clinicians in Michigan's community mental health system and other organizations serving senior adults.

After the conference, program staff from the LCC Mental Health and Aging Project compiled a notebook of session hand-outs that can be borrowed. For descriptions of all of the sessions, go to www.lcc.edu/mhap and click on 2006 conference. To borrow the notebook of hand-outs, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu.

OSA EVENTS/MEETINGS

OSA/Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Directors

The next meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. **August 8** in Conference Room 3B, on the third floor above OSA, 7109 West Saginaw Highway in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Jan Bowlin** at OSA (517/241-3864) or e-mail to bowlinj1@michigan.gov, or call **Mary Ablan** at the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan (517/886-1227) or e-mail to ablan@iserv.net.

Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA)

The next meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. **August 18** at the Holiday Inn Lansing West Conference Center, 7501 W. Saginaw Highway in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Cindy Albrecht** at OSA (517/335-4016) or e-mail to albrechtc@michigan.gov.

State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC)

The next meeting will be held 9:30 a.m. **October 5** at the Holiday Inn Lansing West Conference Center, 7501 W. Saginaw Highway in **Lansing**. For more information, call **Sally Steiner** at OSA (517/373-8810) or e-mail to steiners@michigan.gov

EVENTS/MEETINGS ADDED SINCE THE LAST ISSUE

27th Annual Homecoming Elderfest, sponsored by the City of Dearborn Senior Services **August 4** in the Polish Tent at Ford Field in **Dearborn**. For more information, call 313/943-2412.

Caregiver Training and Education, a workshop series sponsored by Gerontology Network every Tuesday for six weeks **August 8, 15, 22, 29** and **September 5, 12** at Georgetown United Methodist Church in **Jenison**. For more information, call toll-free 800/730-6135 or e-mail to mwaskiewicz@gerontologynetwork.org.

Free Legal Assistance, sponsored by Legal Aid and Defender Association for residents of western and southern Wayne County, age 60 or older, regarding civil (not criminal) matters **August 8** at the Trenton Senior Center and the Westfield Activity Center in **Trenton**, **August 10** at the Ecorse Senior Center in **Ecorse**, **August 16** at the Dearborn Senior Center and the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center in **Dearborn**, **August 17** at the Melvindale Senior Center in **Melvindale**, **August 22** at the Civic Park Senior Center in **Livonia** and **September 12** at the September Days Senior Center in **Van Buren Township**. For more information, call toll-free 877/964-5310.

55 Alive Mature Driving Course, sponsored by the North Berrien Senior Center and AARP **August 9-10** at the senior center **Coloma** to help drivers age 55 or older tune up their driving skills and update their knowledge of the rules of the road. For more information, call 269/468-3366.

Positive Social Psychology: Relationship-Based Care to Address Behavioral Symptoms for Individuals with Dementia, a workshop sponsored by Optimal Life Designs in Dementia Care **August 10** in **Bath**. For more information, call 810/231-2723 or e-mail to annerobinson2@sbcglobal.net.

Cass County Safety Fair, sponsored by the Cass County Council on Aging (CoA) **August 11** at the CoA in **Cassopolis** to provide information and demonstrations on emergency services, life-saving equipment, safety checks, natural disasters, etc. For more information, call 269/445-8110 or toll-free 800/323-0390.

A Senior Prom, an annual social event for senior adults sponsored by The Ingham County TRIAD **August 18** at the Hannah Community Center in **East Lansing**. For more information, call 517/449-6100.

Diabetes Expo with a New Twist: Lifestyles of the Fit, Healthy and Happy, sponsored by Mount Clemens General Hospital Diabetes Education **August 19** at the hospital in **Mt. Clemens** featuring speakers, cooking demonstrations and vendors. For more information, call 586/493-2841.

India Day 2006, a community cultural festival sponsored by the India League of America **August 20** at the Rock Financial Showplace in **Novi**. For more information, go to <http://miindiaday.org>, call 734/674-1105 or 248/231-1287, or e-mail to info@indiaday.org.

2006 Western Wayne County Senior Olympics, hosted by the City of Northville and Northville Township **August 21-25** at various locations in **Western Wayne County**, featuring a softball throw, pinochle, golf, swimming, a baking contest, ring toss, euchre, tennis, shuffleboard, fun walk, 3K run, and more. For more information, call 248/349-4140 or 734/722-2830.

Annual Rummage Sale, sponsored by Prime Times Seniors Program **August 24-26** at the Hannah Community Center in **East Lansing** with all proceeds for the operating budget of the program. For more information, call 517/337-1113 or e-mail to karndt@ci.east-lansing.mi.us.

Ethics in Clinical Practice, and Pain & Pain Management, a workshop provided through APOGEE: A Joint venture of Touchstone innovare' and Gerontology Network **August 30** at the Gratiot County Commission on Aging in **Ithaca**. For more information, call toll-free 800/730-6135 or e-mail to mwaskiewicz@gerontologynetwork.org.

5th Annual International Conference on Frontotemporal Dementias, sponsored by University of California San Francisco (UCSF) School of Medicine **September 6-8** at the Grand Hyatt Hotel Union Square in **San Francisco, CA**. For more information, go to www.ucsfcmc.com or call 415/476-5808.

10th Annual Senior Connections Picnic, sponsored by the Haslett, East Lansing and Okemos senior adult programs and area senior residences **September 7** at Patriarche Park in **East Lansing** with lunch provided by the Tri-County Office on Aging. For more information, call 517/887-1440 or toll-free 800/405-9141.

Diversity and Aging in the 21st Century, a conference sponsored by AARP

14th Annual Alzheimer's Association Dementia Conference, sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association **September 11-13** at the Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel in **Atlanta, GA**. For more information, go to www.alz.org/careconference/ or call 312-335-5790.

2006 Home Health Aid Conference: Fuel 'n Up on Knowledge, sponsored by the Michigan Hospice and Palliative Care Organization **September 12** at the Double Tree Hotel in **Bay City**. For more information or to register, go to www.mihospice.org or call 517/886-6737 or toll-free 800/536-6300.

9th Annual Wilma Donahue Conference, sponsored by the Elder Law and Advocacy Section of the State Bar of Michigan **September 13-15** at the Mission Point Resort on **Macinac Island** for lawyers, paralegals, ombudsman, service providers, advocates, and State Legislators and their staff members. For more information, call **Brad Geller** at OSA (517/373-3697) or e-mail to tennisplayer55@netzero.net.

2006 Governing Nonprofits for Success Seminar: Govern as if Your Community Depends on It...Because it Does!, sponsored by the Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership, and the Association of Fundraising Professionals **September 15** at the Loosemore Auditorium on the Grand Valley State University (GVSU) Pew Campus in **Grand Rapids** to focus on the importance of positively impacting community through an organization's mission, board and funders. For more information or to register, go to www.johnsoncenter.org or call 616/331-7232.

30th Annual National Indian Council on Aging Biennial Conference, entitled "Moving Forward: Honoring Commitments of the Past and Advocating for the Future" and sponsored by the National Indian Council on Aging (NICOA) **September 16-19** at the Tulsa Convention Center in **Tulsa, OK**. For more information, go to www.nicoa.org or call 505/292-2001.

Fifth Annual Diversity Solutions Best Practices Conference, sponsored by the Department of Agriculture (USDA), the US Department of Defense, Boeing, and The Johnson Leadership Institute at the University of Miami in collaboration with JJA Consultants **September 18** at the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel in **Arlington, VA** to help public and private organizations identify and address diversity challenges by implementing diversity best practices, tools, techniques and principles. For more information, go to www.diversitybestpracticesconference.com or call 703/359-5969.

Ethics in Clinical Practice, and Pain & Pain Management, a workshop provided through APOGEE: A Joint venture of Touchstone innovare' and Gerontology Network **September 20** at the Waterford Conference Center in **Traverse City**. For more information, call toll-free

800/730-6135 or e-mail to mwaskiewicz@gerontologynetwork.org.

Chronic Pain – It's Different: Pain Management for Individuals with Chronic Pain, Serious, Persistent Mental Illness and/or Substance Abuse Disorder, sponsored by Gerontology Network with a grant from Network 180 **September 27** in the Prince Center at Calvin College in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, call toll-free 800/730-6135 or e-mail to mwaskiewicz@gerontologynetwork.org.

Ethics in Clinical Practice, and Pain & Pain Management, a workshop provided through APOGEE: A Joint venture of Touchstone innovare' and Gerontology Network **September 29** at Gerontology Network in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, call toll-free 800/730-6135 or e-mail to mwaskiewicz@gerontologynetwork.org.

Non-Alzheimer's Dementias: What They Look Like and Implications for Care, a seminar sponsored by the Lansing Community College Health and Human Services Department **October 6** at the college in **Lansing**. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu.

Fall 2006 Joint Provider/Surveyor Training, sponsored by the Bureau of Health Systems (BHS) of the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) **October 10** at the Rock Financial Showplace in **Novi**. For more information, go to www.mpro.org/jpft/ or www.michigan.gov/bhs, or call 248/465-7303.

Ethics in Clinical Practice, and Pain & Pain Management, a workshop provided through APOGEE: A Joint venture of Touchstone innovare' and Gerontology Network **October 13** at Above & Beyond in **Norton Shores**. For more information, call toll-free 800/730-6135 or e-mail to mwaskiewicz@gerontologynetwork.org.

2006 Volunteer Symposium, sponsored by the Michigan Hospice and Palliative Care Organization **October 13-15** at the Double Tree Hotel in **Bay City**. For more information or to register, go to www.mihospice.org or call 517/886-6737 or toll-free 800/536-6300.

Ethics in Clinical Practice, and Pain & Pain Management, a workshop provided through APOGEE: A Joint venture of Touchstone innovare' and Gerontology Network **October 19** at University Center at Gaylord in **Gaylord**. For more information, call toll-free 800/730-6135 or e-mail to mwaskiewicz@gerontologynetwork.org.

Life Review and Reminiscence: The Power of Our Life Stories, a seminar sponsored by the Lansing Community College Health and Human Services Department **October 27** at the college in **Lansing**. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu.

Validating Feelings to Improve Communication with People with Dementia, a seminar sponsored by the Lansing Community College Health and Human Services Department **October 27** at the college in **Lansing**. For more information, call 517/483-1529 or e-mail to beham@lcc.edu.

Growing through the Years: Michigan & MSG from 1956-2006, a 50th Anniversary celebration and luncheon sponsored by the Michigan Society of Gerontology (MSG) **November 2** at the Michigan State University (MSU) Kellogg Center in **East Lansing**. For more information, go to www.msginfo.org or e-mail to info@msginfo.org. See also the AGING NETWORK NEWS/ACTIVITIES section of this issue (above).

11th Annual Edna Gates Conference on Dementia Care, sponsored by Optimal Life Designs in Dementia Care **November 6-7** at the Marriott Hotel in **Troy**. For more information, call 810/231-2723 or e-mail to annerobinson2@sbcglobal.net.

Ethics in Clinical Practice, and Pain & Pain Management, a workshop provided through APOGEE: A Joint venture of Touchstone innovare' and Gerontology Network **December 1** at the DeVos Center for Scouting in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, call toll-free 800/730-6135 or e-mail to mwaskiewicz@gerontologynetwork.org.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCES

7th Annual Substance Abuse Conference, sponsored by the Michigan Association of Community and Mental Health Boards (MACMHB) **September 11-12** at DeVos Place in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, go to www.macmhb.org or call 517/374-6848.

Nonprofit Day 2006, sponsored by the Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA) and its Public Policy Initiative (MPPI) **September 27** at the Lansing Center in **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.mnaonline.org or call toll-free 888/242-7075.

26th Annual Conference: Transitions Through a Lifespan, sponsored by the Brain Injury Association of Michigan **September 28-29** at the Lansing Center in **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.biami.org or call toll-free 800/772-4323.

16th Annual Senior Advisory Council Conference and 2006 Claude Pepper Awards, entitled "Seniors and Care Givers: Improving Quality of Life" and sponsored by the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Senior Advisory Council and Blue Care Network of Michigan **October 13** at the Bavarian Inn Lodge in **Frankenmuth**. For more information, call toll-free 800/733-2583.

2nd Annual UP Nonprofit Conference, sponsored by the Michigan Nonprofit Association **October 13** at the Great Lakes Center for Youth Development in **Marquette**. For more information, go to www.glcyd.org or call 906/228-8919.

26th Annual Arkansas Aging Conference: Choices for Independence, sponsored by the Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services **October 23-25** at the Hot Springs Convention Center in **Hot Springs, AK**. For more information, go to www.arkansas.gov/dhhs/aging or call 501/682-2441.

MICHIGAN NONPROFIT SEMINARS/TRAINING EVENTS

Grief Support Program, sponsored by the Community Health Agency, Charlevoix Area Hospital and the Northern Michigan Community Mental Health (CMH) Agency **August 2, 9** and **16** at the Charlevoix Area Hospital in **Charlevoix**. For more information, call 231/536-2842.

When & How to Move a Loved One, a Summer 2006 Issues in Aging seminar sponsored by the Macomb Community College (MCC) Center for Continuing Education **August 8-10** at the Assumption Cultural Center in **St. Clair Shores** to explore when home services should be

considered, and when those services are not enough. For more information, call 586/498-4000.

Grief Support Series, sponsored by the Antrim County Commission on Aging (CoA) **August 10, 17, 20 and 27** at Meadow Brook in **Belaire** for anyone experiencing a loss of any kind at anytime. For more information, call 231/544-8019.

Losing Your World: Implications for Caregivers of Individuals with Dementia, a 2006 Professional Series seminar sponsored by Gerontology Network **August 11** at the Montcalm County Commission on Aging in **Stanton**. For more information, call toll-free 800/730-6135 or e-mail to mwaskiewicz@gerontologynetwork.org.

Will and Trust Preparation, a Summer 2006 Issues in Aging seminar sponsored by the Macomb Community College (MCC) Center for Continuing Education **August 23** at the MCC Center Campus in **Clinton Township** to learn how to draft your will and plan your estate plan. For more information, call 586/498-4000.

SuperBoard!: Recruiting and Motivating a High-Impact Board of Directors, a workshop sponsored by the Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA), Capital Area United Way and the Capital Region Community Foundation **August 23** at the MNA in **Lansing** to provide nonprofit organizations with the skills and knowledge to succeed in a highly competitive environment. For more information or to register, go to www.mnaonline.org or call 517/492-2400.

Advanced Techniques in Dementia Care, a 2006 Professional Series seminar sponsored by Gerontology Network **September 8** at the Kettunen Center in **Tustin**. For more information, call toll-free 800/730-6135 or e-mail to mwaskiewicz@gerontologynetwork.org.

Help for the Mature Driver: A 55 Alive Mature Driving Course, sponsored by the Madison Heights Senior Citizen Activity Center and AARP **September 21 & 22** at the Center in **Madison Heights** to help drivers, age 55 or older, improve their skills and prevent traffic accidents. It covers age related physical changes, declining perpetual skills, rules of the road, local driving problems, and license renewal requirements. For more information, go to www.madison-heights.org or call 248/545-3464.

CEO 601: Advanced Leadership, a training sponsored by the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy at Grand Valley State University (GVSU) for board members and executives of nonprofit organizations **October 18-20** at the Shanty Creek Resort in **Bellaire**. For more information, go to www.johnsoncenter.org or call 616/331-7232.

OTHER MICHIGAN EVENTS/MEETINGS

Summer Fun Golf Outing, sponsored by the Isabella County Council on Aging (CoA) and Friends of Isabella Seniors **August 4** at the Pleasant Hills Golf Club in **Mt. Pleasant** with all proceeds going to the CoA programs and services. For more information, call 989/772-4588 or 989/772-0748.

The Senior Pageant, sponsored by Schoolcraft County Fair and the Manistique Area Senior Citizens Center **August 5** at the fairgrounds in **Manistique**. The pageant features a presentation of the annual Senior of the Year Award to an individual who has made valuable

contributions to the Manistique area, the senior center, church or other organizations. For more information, call 906/341-5923.

Senior Services Millage Votes, conducted **August 8** in various Michigan counties, such as Genesee, Gratiot, Kent and Presque Isle Counties. Please remember to vote! For more information, to register to vote, or to obtain an absentee ballot, contact your City or Township Clerk.

Safety Fair, sponsored by the Cass County Council on Aging (CoA) **August 11** at the CoA in **Cassopolis** to provide information about emergency operations and protection from fires, natural disasters, abuse, neglect, financial exploitation and scams. For more information, call 269/445-8110 or toll-free 800/323-0390.

Senior Day at the UP State Fair, sponsored by the Upper Peninsula State Fair **August 16** at the UP State Fairgrounds in **Escanaba**. For more information, call 906/786-4011.

Annual Senior Picnic, sponsored by the Antrim County Commission on Aging **August 18** in **Belaire**. For more information, call 231/533-8703.

Seniors' Day, sponsored by the Michigan State Fair **August 28** at the Michigan State Fairgrounds in **Detroit** to provide live entertainment, senior exhibits, free donuts, orange juice, raffle tickets and free admission for senior adults age 62 and older. The 2006 Senior Citizen of the Year Awards also will be presented. For more information, call 313/369-8310.

2nd Annual St. Clair County Caregiver Fair, a free event for family caregivers sponsored by Area Agency on Aging 1B (AAA-1B) **September 30** at the Thomas Edison Inn in **Port Huron**. For more information, call toll-free 800/852-7795 or e-mail to jjarvis@aaa1b.com.

7th Annual Solutions for Family Caregivers Fair, a free event sponsored by Area Agency on Aging 1B (AAA-1B) **October 21** at the Best Western Sterling Inn Banquet and Conference Center in **Sterling Heights**. For more information, call toll-free 800/852-7795 or e-mail to sjustice@aaa1b.com.

CONFERENCES/EVENTS OUTSIDE MICHIGAN

The Crossroads of Health Care: Covering Managed Care, Cost-Efficiency, Legal & Regulatory Issues, sponsored by Foundations Associates **August 7-9** at the Wyndham Baltimore Inner Harbor Hotel in **Baltimore, MD**. For more information, go www.dualdiagnosis.org or call 877/345-3274.

2006 Governor's Conference on Aging: The Changing Face of Aging, sponsored by the Nebraska Division of Aging and Disability Services, the State Unit on Aging, **August 8-10** at the Holiday Inn in **Kearney, NE**. For more information, call toll-free 800/942-7830.

30th Annual Summer School of Gerontology, sponsored by the South Carolina Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging **August 20-25** to provide education and training for professionals who work with the aging population and others interested in aging issues at Springmaid Beach, **Myrtle Beach, SC**. The lodging and meal costs of presenters, as well as limited travel costs, will be covered. For more information, call 803/734-9878 or e-mail to halljen@aging.sc.gov.

Health and Philanthropy: Leverage Change, the 19th Annual Symposium sponsored by the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University **August 24-25** at the Indiana University Place Conference Center and Hotel in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 317/274-4200.

2006 Autumn Series on Aging-East Coast, sponsored by the American Society on Aging (ASA) **September 11-14** at the Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue in **Philadelphia** to provide continuing education for professionals who work with senior adults and their families. For more information, go to www.asaging.org/autumn-series or call toll-free 800/537-9728.

2nd Annual American Indian & Alaskan Native Long Term Care Conference, entitled "Honoring Our Elders: Best Practices in Long Term Care 2006," and sponsored by the National Indian Council on Aging, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Indian Health Service, AARP and the Administration on Aging (AoA) **September 18-19** at the Crowne Plaza Tulsa in **Tulsa, OK**. For more information, go to www.aianlongtermcare.org or call 505/292-2001.

Powerful Boards, Powerful Fundraising, sponsored by The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University (IU) **September 20-21** at The Fundraising School in **Indianapolis, IN**. For more information, go to www.philanthropy.iupui.edu or call 800/962-6692.

2006 Autumn Series on Aging-West Coast, sponsored by the American Society on Aging (ASA) **September 25-28** at the Embassy Suites Hotel in **San Francisco** to provide continuing education for professionals who work with senior adults and their families. For more information, go to www.asaging.org/autumn-series or call toll-free 800/537-9728.

22nd National Home & Community Based Services Conference/Age and Disability Odyssey, entitled "Seasons of Change in Home and Community Supports" and sponsored by the National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA) and the Minnesota Department of Human Services/Aging and Adult Services **October 3-6** at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in **Minneapolis, MN**. For more information, go to www.nasua.org/waiverconference or call 202/898-2578.

2006 Annual Conference, sponsored by the National Guardianship Association (NGA) **October 7-10** at the Newport Beach Marriott Resort & Spa in **Newport Beach, CA**. For more information, go to www.guardianship.org, call 814/238-3126 or e-mail to info@guardianship.org.

1st National Concepts in Care Conference, a care-focused gathering of family caregivers and healthcare professionals from across the nation sponsored by the Alzheimer's Foundation of America **October 21-22** at the Hilton Anatole-Dallas in **Dallas**. For more information, go to www.alzfdn.org or call toll-free 866/232-8484.

Life @ 50+ AARP's National Event and Expo, sponsored by AARP **October 26-28** at the Anaheim Convention Center in **Anaheim, CA**. For more information, go to www.aarp.org/events or call toll-free 800/883-2784.

59th Annual Scientific Meeting: Education & the Gerontological Imagination, sponsored by the Gerontological Society of America **November 15-20** at the Adam's Mark Hotel in **Dallas, TX**. For more information, go to www.agingconference.com or call 202/842-1275.

2007 Joint Conference of the National Council on Aging (NCoA) and the American Society on Aging (ASA), to be held **March 7-10, 2007** in **Chicago, IL**. For more information, go to www.agingconference.org, call 415/974-9600 or e-mail to ic07@asaging.org.

FOR-PROFIT TRAINING EVENTS/RESOURCES

The following information about for-profit training events and resources is presented as a public service for informational purposes only, and should not be interpreted as constituting OSA promotion or endorsement. OSA does not receive financial or any other benefit for providing this information.

For-Profit Training Events

Criticism & Discipline Skills for Managers and Supervisors, conducted by Fred Pryor Seminars **August 15** in **Kalamazoo**, **August 16** in **Lansing**, **August 17** in **Saginaw**, **August 18** in **Flint**, **August 21** in **Grand Rapids**, **August 22** in **Ann Arbor**, **August 24** in **Sterling Heights** and **August 25** in **Southfield** to learn ways to bring about change in people without incurring resentment or making enemies. For more information, go to www.pryor.com or call toll-free 800/556-3012.

Excelling as a First-Time Manager or Supervisor, conducted by Skillpath Seminars **August 21** in **Farmington Hills**, **August 22** in **Dearborn**, **September 14** in **Ann Arbor**, **September 15** in **Troy** and **November 15** in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, go to www.skillpath.com or call toll-free 800/873-7545.

Conference for Women, conducted by Skillpath Seminars **August 25** in **Marquette**, **November 14** in **Dearborn**, **November 15** in **Troy** and **November 16** in **Jackson**. For more information, go to www.skillpath.com or call toll-free 800/873-7545.

How to Effectively Manage Multiple Locations, conducted by Skillpath Seminars **August 28-29** in **Farmington Hills**. For more information, go to www.skillpath.com or call toll-free 800/873-7545.

Mastering Microsoft Excel, conducted by Fred Pryor Seminars **September 11-12** in **Ann Arbor**, **September 11-12** in **Saginaw**, **September 13-14** in **Flint**, **September 13-14** in **Troy**, **September 18-19** in **Jackson**, **September 20-21** in **Kalamazoo**, **September 25-26** in **Lansing** and **September 27-28** in **Grand Rapids**. For more information, go to www.pryor.com call toll-free 800/556-3012.

The Outstanding Receptionist, conducted by Fred Pryor Seminars **September 14** in **Jackson**, **September 15** in **Southfield**, **September 18** in **Kalamazoo**, **September 19** in **Grand Rapids**, **September 20** in **Lansing**, **September 21** in **Ann Arbor**, **September 25** in **Petoskey**, **September 26** in **Traverse City**, **September 27** in **Saginaw** and **September 28** in **Flint**. For more information, go to www.pryor.com or call toll-free 800/556-3012.

OSHA Compliance 2006, conducted the Human Resources Council **October 13** in **Lansing**. For more information, go to www.skillpath.com or call toll-free 800/601-4636.

Managing Emotions and Thriving Under Pressure, conducted by Skillpath Seminars

October 25 in Kalamazoo, October 26 in Lansing and October 27 in Traverse City. For more information, go to www.skillpath.com or call toll-free 800/873-7545.

FEDERAL REGISTER

(July 10 – July 28)

CMS Requests Input for Citizenship Documentation Procedures

See the Federal Register dated **July 12** (Vol. 71, No. 133). Go to “Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services” and see “Rules.” This interim final rule from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services with comment period amends Medicaid regulations to implement the provision of the Deficit Reduction Act that requires states to obtain satisfactory documentary evidence of an applicant’s or recipient’s citizenship and identity in order to receive federal financial participation. Medicaid applicants and recipients also are required by the Social Security Act to declare under penalty of perjury whether they are citizens or nationals of the US. Self-attestation of citizenship and identity is no longer an acceptable practice. This regulation provides states with guidance on the types of documentary evidence that may be accepted, including alternate forms of documentary evidence in addition to those described in the statute and the conditions under which this documentation can be accepted in order to establish the applicant’s or recipient’s declaration of citizenship. Public comment must be submitted by **August 11**. For more information, call 410/786-4463.

CMS Announces MA Medical Savings Account Demonstration Project

See the Federal Register dated **July 13** (Vol. 71, No. 134). Go to “Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services” and see “Notices.” This notice from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) informs interested parties of an opportunity to apply to participate in the Medicare Advantage (MA) Medical Savings Account (MSA) demonstration project. The MA MSA demonstration design waives certain MA MSA plan requirements that will allow entities to offer products that more closely resemble high deductible health plans (HDHPs) that are offered with Health Savings Accounts to the non-Medicare population. The Social Security Act authorizes MAs to offer MSAs to beneficiaries. However, the required benefit structure is not perceived by insurance organizations as being easily marketable. Although similar Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) are available in the commercial market, this MA MSA Demonstration project allows more flexible benefits that will allow beneficiaries the freedom to exercise control over their health care spending while providing important protection against catastrophic health care costs. CMS is providing flexibility with this MSA demonstration project to make the increasingly popular consumer-directed plans available to Medicare beneficiaries. The goal of this demonstration project is to test whether the consumer directed health plans in Medicare will help lower health care costs for enrollees without adversely affecting the quality of health care services. MA organizations interested in participating must submit a complete MA MSA application by **July 21**. Applications are available at www.cms.hhs.gov/medicareadvantageapps. For more information, call 410/786-7627.

LEGISLATION SUMMARY

The following bills are listed for informational/educational purposes only. The list does not

constitute OSA support or endorsement. Nor does it indicate the critical bills OSA considers to be of priority. All of this information is current, as of the date of this issue. But it is subject to change at any time through legislative action.

For more information about the content and legislative history of a particular bill, go to www.legislature.mi.gov (the Michigan Legislature website) and enter the bill number in the box under "Legislative Bill Search." Then click on "Go!" and the status page of the bill will appear with current information about the bill. Click on a "PDF" or "TXT" box for a copy of the latest version of the bill, or a House or Senate analysis of the bill.

The Michigan Legislature website (www.michiganlegislature.org) is a free service of the Legislative Internet Technology Team in cooperation with the Michigan Legislative Council, the Michigan House of Representatives, and the Michigan Senate. Also, call the Michigan Law Library at 517/373-0630 for legal research questions.

If you have a question or opinion about any of these bills, contact your State Legislator. Also, you may call OSA Director **Sharon Gire** at 517/373-7876 or e-mail her at osadirector@michigan.gov.

New House Bills (July 10 – July 28)

None.

New Senate Bills (July 10 – July 28)

Senate Bill (SB) 1357 of 2006

Health facilities; hospitals; definition of hospital and community hospitals and related facilities; expand to include certain facilities (a long-term care facility, an assisted living facility, a home for the aged. A senior citizen housing facility, a health and wellness facility). Amends Public Act (PA) 47 of 1945. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 7-26-06.d

Senate Bill (SB) 1360 of 2006

Economic development; other; issuance of pension obligation and other actuarially based obligation bonds; allow. Amends Public Act (PA) 34 of 2001. Sponsored by **Sen. Nancy Cassis** and co-sponsored by no others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance 7-26-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 1361 of 2006

Insurance; other; interstate insurance product regulation compact (including group annuity, life insurance and long-term care insurance products); enact. Creates new act. Sponsored by **Sen. Alan Sanborn** (R-Richmond) and co-sponsored by no others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions 7-26-06.

House and Senate Bills that have Moved (July 10 – July 28)

House Bill (HB) 4870 of 2005, House Bill (HB) 4891 of 2005, House Bill (HB) 5796 of 2006, House Bill (HB) 5836 of 2006, Senate Bill (SB) 403 of 2005, Senate Bill (SB) 1083 of 2006 and Senate Bill (SB) 1090 of 2006.

House Bill 4870 of 2005

See **Public Act (PA) 299 of 2006** (below).

House Bill (HB) 4891 of 2005

See **Public Act (PA) 300 of 2006** (below).

House Bill (HB) 5796 of 2006

Appropriations; other; omnibus budget appropriations bill; provide for fiscal years 2006 and 2007. Creates appropriation act. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt) and co-sponsored by seven others. Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 3-1-06. House substitute bill adopted and amended by the House 5-24-06. Passed by the House 5-24-06. Referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations 5-25-06. Discharge Committee approved 5-31-06. Senate substitute bill concurred in by the Senate 5-31-06. Passed by the Senate 5-31-06. Senate substitute bill concurred in by the House 5-31-06. House named conferees 5-31-06: **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt), **Rep. John Pastor** (R-Livonia) and **Rep. Rich Brown** (D-Bessemer). Senate named conferees 6-13-06: **Sen. Shirley Johnson** (R-Troy), **Sen. Tony Stamas** (R-Midland) and **Sen. Michael Prusi** (D-Ishpeming). Referred to Conference Committee 6-8-06. Conference report adopted by the House with immediate effect 7-26-06. Conference report adopted by the Senate with immediate effect 7-26-06. Bill ordered enrolled 7-26-06..

House Bill (HB) 5836 of 2006

See **Public Act (PA) 301 of 2006** (below).

Senate Bill (SB) 403 of 2005

This bill would establish a licensure framework for dietitians and nutritionists, establish minimum educational standards, set licensure fees, describe a scope of practice, and create the Michigan Board of Dietetics and Nutrition. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Sen. Laura Toy** (R-Livonia) and co-sponsored by three others. Referred to the Senate Committee on Health Policy 4-21-05. Senate Fiscal Analyses 2-14-06 and 2-16-06. Referred to the Senate Committee of the Whole 2-21-06. Senate Fiscal Analysis 2-23-06. Passed by the Senate 3-8-06. Referred to the House Committee on Health Policy 3-8-06. House substitute bill adopted 6-28-06. Passed by the House and given immediate effect 6-29-06. Returned to the Senate 6-29-06. House substitute bill concurred in by the Senate and given immediate effect 7-26-06. Bill ordered enrolled 7-26-06. .

Senate Bill (SB) 1083 of 2006

Appropriations; community health; Department of Community Health; provide for fiscal year 2006-2007. Creates appropriation act. Sponsored by **Sen. Deborah Cherry** (D-Burton) and co-sponsored by one other. Referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations 2-28-06. Senate substitute bill as amended concurred in 3-28-06. Passed by the Senate 3-28-06. Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 3-30-06. House substitute bill adopted 5-31-06. Passed by the House 5-31-06. Returned to the Senate 5-31-06. House substitute bill nonconcurred in by the Senate 6-6-06. Senate names conferees: **Sen. Tony Stamas** (R-Midland), **Sen. Thomas George** (R-Portage) and **Sen. Deborah Cherry** (D-Burton) 6-13-06. House names conferees: **Rep. Bruce Caswell** (R-Hillsdale), **Rep. Roger Kahn** (R-Saginaw Township) and **Rep. Alma Wheeler Smith** (D-Ypsilanti) 6-13-06. Conference Committee report received in the Senate 7-26-06. Senate adopted Conference Committee report with immediate effect 7-26-06. Conference Committee report adopted by the House with immediate effect 7-26-06. Bill ordered enrolled 7-26-06.

Senate Bill (SB) 1090 of 2006

Appropriations; human services; Department of Human Services; provide for fiscal year 2006-2007. Creates appropriation act. Sponsored by **Sen. Martha Scott** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by one other. Referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations 2-28-06. Senate substitute bill, as amended, concurred in by the Senate 5-24-06. Amendments adopted 5-24-06. Passed by the Senate 5-24-06. Immediate effect defeated 5-24-06. Referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 5-24-06. House substitute bill adopted 5-31-06. Passed by the House 5-31-06. Returned to the Senate 5-31-06. House substitute bill nonconcurred in by the Senate 6-6-06. Senate names conferees: **Sen. Bill Hardiman** (R-Kentwood), **Sen. Thomas George** (R-Portage) and **Sen. Martha Scott** (D-Highland Park). House names conferees: **Rep. Rick Shaffer** (R-Three Rivers), **Rep. Roger Kahn** (R-Saginaw Township) and **Rep. Chris Kolb** (D-Ann Arbor). Referred to the Conference Committee 6-13-06. Senate names **Rep. Shaffer** to serve as Chair of the Conference Committee 6-13-06. **Sen. Alan Cropsey** (R-DeWitt) replaces **Sen. Thomas George** as Conferee 7-18-06. For final disposition of budget, see HB 5796.

2005 Public Acts

Public Act (PA) 24 of 2005

House Bill (HB) 4188 of 2005

This bill amends the General Property Tax Act to increase from \$25,000 to \$35,000 the maximum household income of a taxpayer 62 years old, or older, who may defer the collection of summer property taxes, and to remove the income limit for other taxpayers eligible for the summer tax collection deferral. It amends Public Act (PA) 206 of 1893. Sponsored by **Rep. Tory Rocca** (R-Sterling Heights) and co-sponsored by 72 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 5-23-05, and assigned PA 24 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 72 of 2005

House Bill (HB) 4434 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to provide that pharmacies that shared a real-time, online database or other equivalent means of communication, or pharmacies that transferred prescriptions pursuant to a written contract for centralized prescription processing services, would not have to follow the procedure established in the Code to refill a copy of a prescription from another pharmacy. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt) and co-sponsored by 82 others, this bill was tie-barred with SB 352 (which meant neither could take effect unless both did). It was **approved by Gov. Granholm 7-19-05, and assigned PA 72 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 73 of 2005

Senate Bill (SB) 352 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to allow a pharmacy to perform centralized prescription processing services or outsource those services to another pharmacy if certain conditions are met. It amends Public Act 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Sen. Bill Hardiman** (R-Kentwood) and co-sponsored by 23 others, this bill was tie-barred with HB 4434 (which meant neither could take effect unless both did). It was **approved by Gov. Granholm 8-31-05, and assigned PA 73 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 85 of 2005

House Bill (HB) 4405 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to eliminate the authority of a disciplinary subcommittee to impose sanctions against a pharmacist for employing the mail to sell, distribute, or deliver a drug that requires a prescription when the prescription for the drug is

received by mail. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Gretchen Whitmer** (D-East Lansing) and co-sponsored by 63 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 7-20-05, and assigned PA 85 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 109 of 2005
House Bill (HB) 4436 of 2005

Appropriations; zero budget; supplemental appropriations; provide for fiscal year 2004-2005. This bill increases private funds authorization for OSA \$75,000 to recognize private contributions for administering the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program for Seniors, or Project FRESH. Federal funds support the food costs, and the administrative costs must be supported by the state and other contributors. It creates a new appropriations act. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt) and co-sponsored by no others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 9-15-05, and assigned PA 109 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 114 of 2005
Senate Bill (SB) 348 of 2005

The General Property Tax Act requires local tax collecting units that collect a summer property tax to defer the collection, at the taxpayer's request, until the following February 15 for the principal residence of taxpayers with a household income of \$35,000 or less. To be eligible for the deferment, a taxpayer must be totally and permanently disabled, blind, paraplegic, quadriplegic, or an eligible serviceperson or an eligible veteran (or be the widow or widower of such a person). The deferment is also available to taxpayers who are at least 62 years of age, or the unremarried surviving spouse of a person who was at least 62 years of age at time of death. This bill eliminates the income requirement for these taxpayers, except for taxpayers who are at least 62 years of age, or the unremarried surviving spouse of a person who was at least 62 years of age at the time of death. For those taxpayers, the income threshold will increase to \$37,500 for the 2006 tax year and to \$40,000 for the 2007 tax year and beyond. It amends Public Act (PA) 206 of 1893. Sponsored by **Sen. Nancy Cassis** (R-Nov) and co-sponsored by four others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 9-21-05, and assigned PA 114 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 147 of 2005
Senate Bill (SB) 271 of 2005

Appropriations; Family Independence Agency (now the Department of Human Services); provide for fiscal year 2005-2006. Creates a new appropriations act. Sponsored by **Sen. Martha Scott** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by one other, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-5-05 with line-items vetoed, and assigned PA 147 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 154 of 2005
House Bill (HB) 4831 of 2005

Appropriations; other; zero budget appropriations bill; provide for fiscal years 2005 and 2006. Creates a new appropriations act. Sponsored by **Rep. Scott Hummel** (R-DeWitt) and co-sponsored by no others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-5-05 with line items vetoed, and assigned PA 154 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 161 of 2005
House Bill (HB) 4996 of 2005

Under provisions of the Public Health Code, dental hygienists, under the supervision of a dentist, can now provide dental hygiene services to patients who have not first been examined by a dentist as part of a program for "dentally underserved" patients conducted by a local, state, or federal grantee health agency. This bill amends the Public Health Code to

revise the criteria for designation as a grantee health agency to include, for example, a public or nonprofit entity, or a school or nursing home that administers a program of dental care to a dentally underserved population. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Barb Vander Veen** (R-Allendale) and co-sponsored by 36 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-4-05, and assigned PA 161 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 187 of 2005
House Bill (HB) 5055 of 2005

This bill modifies the nursing home and hospital Quality Assurance Assessment Programs (QAAPs) to extend sunsets, reflect the amount of tax retained by the State, and changes the way the nursing home QAAP is assessed. The QAAP includes county-owned nursing homes for the first time. It amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Bruce Caswell** (R-Hillsdale) and co-sponsored by no others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 10-27-05, and assigned PA 187 of 2005 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 338 of 2005
Senate Bill (SB) 529 of 2005

This bill makes homestead facilities eligible for residential tax abatements under the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Act. Before this bill became law, the act applied only to newly constructed and rehabilitated residential housing. This bill applies to other existing residences purchased since December 31, 1997. The homestead facility will receive a property tax abatement equal to one-half of the property taxes levied for operating purposes on the building by the local unit and the county. It amends Public Act 147 of 1992. Sponsored by **Sen. Martha Scott** (D-Highland Park) and co-sponsored by no others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 12/31/05, and assigned PA 338 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 339 of 2005
Senate Bill (SB) 530 of 2005

This bill makes homestead facilities eligible for residential tax abatements under the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Act. Before this bill became law, the act applied only to newly constructed and rehabilitated residential housing. This bill applies to other existing residences purchased since December 31, 1997. The homestead facility will receive a property tax abatement equal to one-half of the property taxes levied for operating purposes on the building by the local unit and the county. It amends Public Act (PA) 147 of 1992. Sponsored by **Sen. Samuel Thomas III** (D-Detroit) and co-sponsored by no others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 12-31-05, and assigned PA 339 with immediate effect.**

2006 Public Acts

Public Act (PA) 24 of 2006
House Bill (HB) 4670 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to allow an individual who is retired from the active practice of medicine, osteopathic medicine and surgery, or podiatric medicine, and who wishes to donate his or her expertise for the medical care and treatment of indigent and needy individuals or individuals in medically underserved areas of the state, to obtain a special volunteer license to practice by submitting an application to the applicable board. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Gary Newell** (R-Saranac) and co-sponsored by 22 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-16-06, and assigned PA 24 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 25 of 2006
House Bill (HB) 5375 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to provide for civil immunity for retired physicians who volunteer their services at a health facility or agency serving the medically indigent. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Gary Newell** (R-Saranac) and co-sponsored by 17 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-16-06, and assigned PA 25 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 26 of 2006
House Bill (HB) 5168 of 2005

This bill amends the Public Health Code to require an applicant for a health profession license or registration, or for reinstatement or reclassification of a license or registration, to undergo a criminal background check. In addition, the bill allows a licensing board for good cause to request a licensee or registrant to have a criminal background check. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Paula Zelenko** (D-Burton) and co-sponsored by 50 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-16-05, and assigned PA 26 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 27 of 2006
House Bill (HB) 5448 of 2005

This bill amends the mental health code to require criminal history checks on individuals seeking employment, an independent contract, or clinical privileges with a psychiatric facility or immediate care facility for people with mental retardation. Amends Public Act (PA) 258 of 1974. It is tie-barred with HB 5168, SB 621 and SB 622. Sponsored by **Rep. Barb Vander Veen** (R-Allendale) and co-sponsored by 47 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-16-05, and assigned PA 27 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 28 of 2006
Senate Bil (SB) 621 of 2005

This bill expands the requirements for criminal background checks for new employees at health facilities and agencies, as well as individuals seeking clinical privileges and independent contracts. It adds two sections to the Public Health Code that applies to a health facility or agency that is a nursing home, county medical facility, hospice, hospital that provides swing bed services, home for the aged, or home health agency. In each case, a request will be made to the Department of State Police to conduct a criminal history check and to forward fingerprints into the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) database, and to forward fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The State Police will have to request the FBI to make a determination of any national criminal history pertaining to an applicant for employment. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. It is tie-barred with HB 5168, HB 5448 and SB 622. Sponsored by **Sen. Patricia L. Birkholz** (R-Saugatuck) and co-sponsored by six others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-21-06, and assigned PA 28 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 29 of 2006
Senate Bill (SB) 622 of 2005

This bill expands the requirements for criminal background checks for new employees at foster care facilities, as well as individuals seeking clinical privileges and independent contracts. It amends the Adult Foster Care Facility. In each case, a request will be made to the Department of State Police to conduct a criminal history check and to forward fingerprints into the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) database, and to forward fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The State Police will have to request the FBI to make a determination of any national criminal history pertaining to an applicant for employment. Amends Public Act (PA) 218 of 1979. It is tie-barred with HB 5168, HB 5448 and SB 621. Sponsored by **Sen. Tony Stamas** (R-Midland) and co-sponsored by six others,

it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 2-21-06, and assigned PA 29 of 2006 with immediate effect.**

Public Act (PA) 38 of 2006

House Bill (HB) 4606 of 2005

The bill amends the Public Health Code to require a health facility's or agency's policy describing patient or resident rights and responsibilities to include references to the Medical Records Access Act and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Sponsored by **Rep. Stephen Adamini** (D-Marquette) and co-sponsored by one other, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 3-2-06, and assigned PA 38 of 2006.**

Public Act (PA) 133 of 2006

House Bill (HB) 4423 of 2005

This bill would amend the public act which regulates home solicitation sales to provide that it would be an unfair or deceptive act or practice and a violation of the act for a telephone solicitor to misrepresent in a message left for a consumer on his or her answering machine or voice mail that he or she had a current business matter or transaction, or a current business or customer relationship with the solicitor or another person, and request that the consumer call the solicitor of another person to discuss that matter, transaction or relationship. Amends Public Act (PA) 227 of 1971. Sponsored by **Rep. Lisa Wojno** (D-Warren) and co-sponsored by 12 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 5-10-06, and assigned Public Act (PA) 133 of 2006.**

Public Act (PA) 137 of 2006

House Bill (HB) 5336 of 2005

This bill would add Part 25 (Health Information Technology) to the Public Health Code to create the Health Information Technology Commission within the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) to facilitate and promote the design, implementation, operation, and maintenance of an interoperable health care information infrastructure in Michigan. Sponsored by **Rep. Gary Newell** (R-Saranac) and co-sponsored by 39 others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 5-10-06, and assigned Public Act (PA) 137 of 2006.**

Public Act (PA) 144 of 2006

Senate Bill (SB) 838 of 2005

This bill amends the Social Welfare Act by eliminating the provision that defines caretaker relatives and 19 and 20 year-olds who meet certain requirements as medically indigent, and therefore, categorically eligible for Medicaid. This bill replaces references to categorical Medicaid eligibility for 19 and 20 year-olds, and caretaker relatives with language that eligibility would be subject to Title XIX eligibility standards for optional groups, subject to limitations imposed by the Director according to Title XIX. Amends Public Act 280 of 1939. Sponsored by **Sen. Robert L. Emerson** (D-Flint) and co-sponsored by no others, it was **approved by Gov. Granholm 5-22-06, and assigned PA 144 of 2006.**

Public Act (PA) 157 of 2006

House Bill (HB) 5631 of 2006

This bill amends the Public Health Code to require the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) to assist the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) in any review or update of the pandemic influenza plan, and cooperate with the MDCH Director in his or her response to certain epidemics. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Tie barred with HB 5630 of 2006 (which means neither bill can take effect unless both do). Sponsored by **Rep. Richard Ball** (R-Laingsburg) and co-sponsored by 12 others, it was **approved by**

Gov. Granholm 5-25-06, and assigned PA 157 of 2006 with immediate effect.

Public Act (PA) 163 of 2006

House Bill (HB) 5630 of 2006

This bill amends the Public Health Code to require the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) to establish and maintain a pandemic influenza plan. MDCH would have to review and update the plan at least annually. The MDCH would have to make the plan and any updates to it available to the public through the MDCH website. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Tie barred with HB 5631 of 2006 (which means neither bill can take effect unless both do). Sponsored by **Rep. Leslie Mortimer** (R-Horton) and co-sponsored by 23 others, it was approved by **Gov. Granholm 5-25-06, and assigned PA 163 of 2006** with immediate effect.

Public Act (PA) 218 of 2006

House Bill (HB) 5962 of 2006

This bill amends the Nonprofit Health Care Corporation Act, which regulates Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBS). The Nonprofit Health Care Corporation Act requires BCBS to use reasonable care to secure records from unauthorized access to ensure the confidentiality of records containing personal information, and to collect only personal data necessary for proper review and payment of claims. This bill applies this restriction to personal data necessary for health care operations, treatment and research. The Nonprofit Health Care Corporation Act also prohibits BCBS from disclosing records containing personal data that may be associated with an identifiable member, or concerning a member, without that members written consent. This bill makes an exception for health care operations, treatment, research, payment, and health oversight activities. This bill also specifies that compliance with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) and regulations promulgated under that act, would satisfy the confidentiality requirements. Amends Public Act (PA) 350 of 406. Sponsored by **Rep. Joe Hune** (R-Hamburg) and co-sponsored by three others, it was approved by **Gov, Granholm 6-27-06, and assigned PA 192 of 2006** with immediate effect.

Public Act (PA) 249 of 2006

Senate Bill (SB) 1172

This bill amends the Emergency Telephone Service Enabling Act to require the State 911 Director, by December 1, 2006 to delay the Act's 12-31-06 sunset until 12-31-07; issue to the Legislature and the Governor a report making recommendations for stable, equitable long-term funding of the State's 9-1-1 system, as well as recommendations for the establishment of standards for the training and response time of 9-1-1 personnel; and require that the report contain a recommendation that any 9-1-1 fees collected from communications providers be assessed in a competitively neutral manner. Amends Public Act (PA) 32 of 1986. Sponsored by **Sen. Cameron Brown** (R-Sturgis) and co-sponsored by no others, it was approved by **Gov. Granholm 6-28-06, and assigned PA 249 of 2006** with immediate effect.

Public Act (PA) 299 of 2006

House Bill (HB) 4870 of 2005

This bill amends the Estate and Protected Individual Code (EPIC) to use the order of priority of inheritance established under EPIC for a person who dies intestate (without a will) as the presumed order of priority of individuals who would have the rights and powers to make decisions about a decedent's body; specifies the person (a guardian or personal representative, or the county public administrator) who would have those rights and powers if no one in the order of priority existed, exercised the rights and powers, or could be located; allow an individual, other than a person with priority or a person described above, to file an

action in circuit court to challenge the presumption and be determined as the individual who would have the authority to make decisions about a decedent's body; requires that decisions be made by majority if the rights and powers were shared; allows an individual with the rights and powers to make decisions about a decedent's body, or a funeral establishment that custody of the body, to petition the probate court to determine who had the authority to make these decisions, if there were a disagreement between individuals who shared the rights and powers, or if one or more individuals in the order of priority could not be located; specifies activities for which a funeral establishment would not be responsible or liable; specifies that a funeral establishment, mortician, cemetery, or crematory could rely on EPIC and the instruction of a person in the order of priority or determined by the court to be the party to exercise the rights and powers to make decisions about a decedent's body; and provides that the bill would not affect an anatomical gift. Amends Public Act (PA) 386 of 1998. Tie barred with HB 4890 of 2005 and HB 4891 of 2005 (which means none of these bills can take effect unless all do). Sponsored by **Rep. Bruce Caswell** (R-Hillsdale) and co-sponsored by four others, **it was approved by Gov. Granholm 7-18-06, and assigned PA 299 of 2006** with immediate effect.

Public Act (PA) 300 of 1006
House Bill (HB) 4891 of 2005

This bill amends the Occupational Code to refer to a person with authority under the Estates and Protected Individual Code (EPIC) to make decisions about a decedent's body, rather than to the decedent's next of kin, in several provisions of Article 18, which governs the practice of mortuary science. Amends Public Act (PA) 299 of 1980. Tie barred with HB 4870 of 2005 (which means neither bill can take effect unless both do). Sponsored by **Rep. David Law** (R-West Bloomfield) and co-sponsored by six others, **it was approved by Gov. Granholm 7-18-06, and assigned PA 300 of 2006** with immediate effect.

Public Act (PA) 301 of 2006
House Bill (HB) 5836 of 2006

This bill amends the Public Health Code to refer to the person with authority under the Estates and Protected Individuals Code (proposed by HB 4870) rather than the next of kin, specific relatives, or a special administrator appointed by the probate court, in provisions of the Public Health Code. Amends Public Act (PA) 368 of 1978. Tie barred with HB 4870 of 2005 (which means neither of these bills can take effect unless both do). Sponsored by **Rep. Bruce Caswell** (R-Hillsdale) and co-sponsored by no others, **it was approved by Gov. Granholm 7-18-06, and assigned PA 301 of 2006** with immediate effect.

WEBSITES

www.abledata.com is a website maintained for the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research of the US Department of Education. It is a source of assistive technology information. It does not sell any products, but it helps locate companies that do by providing objective information about assistive technology products and rehabilitation equipment available from domestic and international sources.

www.aging.ohio.gov and www.goldenbuckeye.com are the websites of the Ohio Department of Aging (the Ohio State Office on Aging) for older Ohioans and their families, professionals and policy makers.

www.cfad.org is the website of Caring from a Distance (CFAD), a nonprofit organization

based in Washington, DC that works to bring together the shared experiences of people who have personally struggled with the stress, anguish and frustration of long distance caregiving; help caregivers to determine their needs and tasks; connect them directly with local service providers, educate them where to go for help; and facilitate communication between caregiving families, friends and service providers.

www.hillsdaleseniorcenter.org is the website of the Hillsdale County Senior Services Center in **Hillsdale**.

www.co.jackson.mi.us/agencies/deptaging is the website of the Jackson County Department on Aging in **Jackson**.

www.lenawee.mi.us/aging is the website of the Lenawee County Department on Aging in **Adrian**.

www.preventblindness.org is the website of Prevent Blindness America, since 1908 the nation's leading health and safety organization dedicated to preventing blindness and preserving sight. The leading cause of vision impairment and blindness in the US is age-related eye diseases, and this nonprofit organization supports vision research, advocacy, professional resources, a vision learning center and an online store.

www.promotingexcellence.org/mentalillness/ is the website of Promoting Excellence in End-of-Life Care, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. It contains tools, products and resources for innovative models and approaches for hospice and palliative care. It is dedicated to long-term changes to improve health care for dying people and their families.

ABOUT RESOURCES FOR AGING

Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor

Sharon L. Gire, OSA Director

This electronic newsletter (e-newsletter) from the **Michigan Office of Services to the Aging (OSA)** is available at no cost.

OSA is the designated State Unit on Aging for Michigan, as authorized by the Older Americans Act of 1965 and the Older Michiganians Act of 1981. OSA advocates on behalf of individuals and age 60 or older for policies, programs and services that benefit them and their families. OSA administers federal and state funds and manages grants for services provided by the aging network service providers.

The events/meetings, funding/grants, and other resources described in [Resources for Aging](#) should not be interpreted as constituting OSA endorsement. This information is presented for informational/educational purposes only.

Please help spread the word about this free resource for aging to those in the aging network and others who are interested. If you or others wish to receive it directly by e-mail, send a request by e-mail to researcher/writer **David Dekker** at dekkerd@michigan.gov. Please include name, e-mail address, telephone number, city and organization/agency (if any).

Comments and suggestions are appreciated. Also, readers are invited to submit information

to be considered for publication. Please send to dekkerd@michigan.gov or to Resources for Aging, P.O. Box 30676, Lansing, MI 48909-8176.

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